

NEWS RELEASE

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Certification in High Demand-High Growth Industries Leads to Graduation

Forty-five individuals will begin a new life as they graduate from one of two fast-paced, demanding training programs, the Brownfields Integrated Environmental Training and Employment and the Construction Apprenticeship Pathways (CAP). Both programs are conducted by the Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network's Center for Working Families.

"These 45 graduates are to be commended for taking steps that will create a new life for themselves and for their families. They have taken a big step towards securing their financial futures. Housing construction may be slow right now, but infrastructure construction is booming and these men and women are ready," said Sixth District Councilmember Dee Andrews, whose district includes the Center for Working Families. "Green jobs, such as Brownfield Remediation, will only grow and these graduates are in on the ground floor of their career."

The five-week Brownfields Integrated Environmental Training and Employment Program trains, and places, low-income residents in environmental remediation careers. The trainees completed the environmental training requirements, and earned a number of key certifications important to employment in that industry, including OSHA 30, Asbestos and Lead Abatement, Refinery Safety Overview and Hazardous Waste Worker Protection and Emergency Response.

The four-week hands-on Construction Apprenticeship Pathways program (CAP) prepares trainees for the Union Apprenticeship exams. These trainees also receive certification in Refinery Safety Overview, Hazardous Waste Worker Protection and Emergency Response, OSHA 10, including Traffic Control and Confined Space. The trainees strengthen their interview skills prior to meeting with representatives from several different unions.

Funding for the Brownfields Integrated Environmental Training comes from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Workforce Investment Act funds through the State of California. Funding for the Construction Apprenticeship Pathways training comes from the Federal Highways Administration.

The Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network's Center for Working Families is a public-private partnership that combines workforce development, and economic and other services supports to ensure that low-income families reach financial stability and climb the economic ladder.

The Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network offers free services to both businesses and job seekers in LOMITA, LONG BEACH, SIGNAL HILL, TORRANCE, HARBOR CITY, HARBOR GATEWAY, SAN PEDRO, AND WILMINGTON. For more information about services call: 562.570.WORK, Toll Free 800.292.7200, TTY 562.570.4629 or visit www.pacificgatewayworkforce.com

